DESIGNING BETTER SMILES

NYC SMILE

Doctors Ramin Tabib & Elisa Mello

After

Before

The eyes may be the windows to the soul, but the smile can be the key to confidence. The clients of NYC Smile Design at 8 East 84th Street, where a charming and complementary husband and wife cosmetic dentistry team has been enhancing smiles on the Upper East Side for ten years, bear testimony to that fact.

Take Stephanie Stewart as an example. A car accident in high school, coupled with two rounds of braces and bridgework, had left her with a smile that brought her no joy. She consulted Doctors Ramin Tabib and Elisa Mello at NYC Smile Design, who worked with her over a period of two months, adjusting her crowns, laser bleaching, performing a laser gum lift and adding new veneers to her teeth, creating a whole new vision for her. "It's the smile I always wanted," Stewart says. "I wish I had done it ten years ago."

Patricia DiGiacomo says similarly glowing things. After her smile makeover, she grins and smiles broadly. "My confidence is soaring," she says. "I recommend NYC Smile Design to anyone who has issues with their teeth."

Experiences like these are not unusual for Drs. Mello and Tabib, whose international reputation attracts clients from all over the world, as well as right next door. Dr. Tabib is a recognized expert in cosmetic dentistry and is a clinical faculty member in NYU's Aesthetic Dentistry Program. He limits his practice to smile makeovers and full mouth reconstruction. Dr. Mello, also a recognized expert in cosmetic dentistry, is a clinical assistant professor for NYU's international program in Advanced Education in General Dentistry. Her practice includes improving smiles through laser gum lifts and clear Invisalign orthodontics, which has popularized braces for the adult set. "Because we have developed expertise in different areas of cosmetic dentistry, we are able to face particular cosmetic challenges and not have to apply a cookie-cutter approach," says Dr. Mello. Experts in cosmetic dentistry look at every ingredient that makes a smile beautiful.

"Once people get their smile, it can be a catalyst for other life improvements."

"A beautiful smile is a perfect blend of art and science," Dr. Tabib says. "We have to look at the individual bone structure, skin and eye color, gum shape and position, the shape and contours of the lips and of course the teeth, and how they all interrelate."

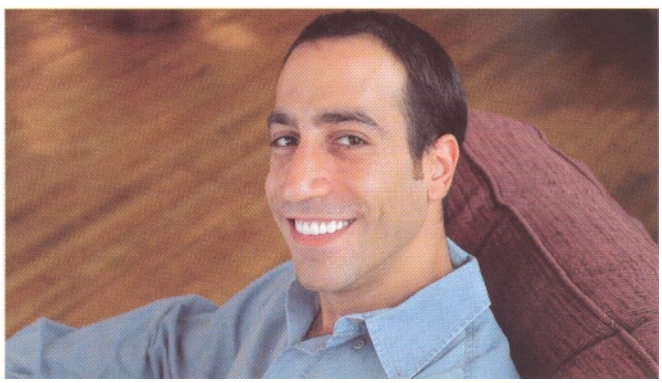
Their contemporary and pleasant office feels homey and relaxed, with soft music and lighting and fresh flowers brought in every week. Fresh coffee and tea, fruit and even chocolate are available. It offers all that is state of the art in cosmetic dentistry, including laser technology, a microscope to perform procedures with the utmost accuracy and a digital x-ray machine that greatly reduces radiation. A computerized shade scan helps map and perfectly match the color of a tooth. Difoti, or Digital Fiberoptic Transillumination, the latest in diagnostic tools, detects the smallest cavity or crack in teeth with a light source and a computer without any radiation.

Clients are given hot towels, tempurpedic pillows, disposable headphones for iPods with more than 5,000 songs and a wide selection of DVD movies. Oral sedation is available, reducing the need for needles and a private car is arranged to return clients to their home or their hotel.

Cosmetic dentistry is on the rise, in part because of makeover shows. It is no longer the exclusive province of the absolute upper crust. "Patients already know about the different procedures when they come to see us," says Dr. Mello. "Consumers are more aware now."

And those who get their smile lifted get other benefits. "Once a smile makeover is completed, it can be a catalyst for other life improvements," says Dr. Tabib. "It affects the confidence you project, how you speak, and can be instrumental in your career advancement. It really has a ripple effect."

For more information, see NYC Smile Design's website at www.nycsmiledesign.com ■

Before

After